

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

Sixty-Second Annual Session

—OF THE—

Union Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

Spring Hill Baptist Church,

PICKENS COUNTY, ALA.,

COMMENCING AUGUST 31st, 1897.

OFFICERS:

W. G. ROBERTSON, MODERATOR....	...Carrollton, Ala.
M. G. LOFTON, CLERK.....	Archer, Ala.

The next session of the Association will be held with Carrollton church, Pickens county, Ala., beginning on Tuesday before the first Sunday in September, 1898, and continuing three days.

CARROLLTON, ALA.
WEST ALABAMIAN PRINT.
1898.

PROCEEDINGS.

Spring Hill Church, August 31, 1897.

The Union Association, in its sixty second annual session, was called to order by Elder H. B. Chappell, temporary chairman, but the former moderator having come in, the chair was vacated and the meeting was organized by W. G. Robertson. Dr. D. O. Baird led the congregation in prayer after the beautiful old hymn, "Amazing Grace," was sung and reading of 90th Psalm by Elder H. B. Chappell.

Brethren M. B. Curry and C. D. Harper were appointed to read the letters.

The churches were represented as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Bethlehem—D. O. Baird, W. H. Sanford.

Liberty—J. R. Wilkins, J. W. Abrams, D. T. Harper

Fellowship—G. W. Kerr.

Spring Hill, Lamar county—L. H. Hendrix and Samuel Brewton.

Millport—Jas. M. Daffron.

New Salem—J. H. Stokes, J. M. Pratt.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Arbor Springs—T. S. Wilkins, W. P. Carpenter and Sam. Pearson.

Hebron—J. M. Harper.

Big Creek—H. B. Chappell, Sr., U. E. Allen, W. S. Scott.

Cross Roads—R. J. O'Bryant, William McCulley, Sam Shaw.

Hickory Grove—J. S. Stimpson, J. M. Gentry and Belton Brown.

Spring Hill, Pickens county—C. D. Harper, James Reteer, M. G. Lofton.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Pickensville—J. R. Long, Jr., J. H. Stinson.

Carrollton—W. G. Robertson, J. B. Small, M. B. Curry.

Unity—W. P. Peden, J. J. Noland.

Enon—C. W. Fort, Wallace Williams.

Ebenezer—Louie Cameron, T. H. Noland.

Mt Zion—T. V. Locke, O. C. Eatman.

Prairie—W. C. Mayes.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Beulah—S. S. Thornton.

Bethel—J. P. Park, Geo. A. Stewart, F. A. Stewart.

New Hope—J. P. Barnette

Shiloh—J. D. Ray, M. B. Franklin.

Zion—T. K. Harrison.

Cornelius Chapel—James Burroughs, N. S. Montgomery.

Flat Woods—William Hughes.

Suspended rules and elected W. G. Robertson moderator and M. G. Lofton clerk, by acclamation.

The order of business, as reported by the committee, was then adopted, and the work conducted as follows:

Elder G. W. Kerr preached the introductory sermon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Fifteen minutes were spent in song and prayer services. The prayer was led by the moderator.

There being nothing under the head of miscellaneous business, the moderator extended a cordial invitation to visiting brethren to occupy seats among us to aid in the work of the association. Correspondents were then called for and brethren M. M. Wood, financial agent of Howard College; J. A. Howard, financial agent of Alabama Baptist, and J. W. Caldwell, messenger from Columbus Association, reported, and in appropriate words were welcomed by the moderator and accorded the privileges of the floor. The moderator then requested brethren Preston Ezell, J. F. Hodge and R. J. O'Bryant to represent the Union Association in the Columbus Association.

The report on Bible and Colportage was adopted, and read, as follows:

REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

We believe this work to be of vast importance to us as a denomination. The Bible, the only infallible guide to mankind, should be in every home; and that literature founded upon the same, which indeed is the only literature that can be called Baptistic, should be distributed throughout the land. This is the great need of the age. The world should know, yes, we ourselves should know just what Baptists believe. Then we recommend that every pastor act as special colporteur in his respective field of labor.

H. B. CHAPPELL, Chairman.

Report from the districts:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Held with Millport church, beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1897.

The next session will be held with Mt. Pleasant church, beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1898.

Introductory sermon by O. E. Wooton; W. J. Beaty, alter-

nate. Missionary sermon by Dr. D. O. Baird; G. W. Kerr, alternate.

Query 1st. Is an unchristian man capacitated to instruct children? By J. B. Hodo.

Query 2d. In what respect am I my brother's keeper? By Ira Keasler.

Query 3d. What is the duty of a member who knows of a brother's offense against the church? By Rev. J. A. Estes.

Query 4th. What has been done to remedy the evils of intemperance? By C. A. Beasley.

Query 5th. What does consecration to God and his services consist of? By O. E. Wooton.

Query 6th. How are we to construe this scripture: "If there come one in your assembly having not this doctrine, believe him not, neither bid him God's speed." By D. O. Baird.

Query 7th. Is Christ's church a local body of baptized believers joined together in the doctrines and fellowship of the Gospel, or is it an invisible one composed of all the believers of conflicting sects? By W. J. Beaty.

It was moved that the decision of this district, strongly in favor of a preparatory school, be reported to the association.

Missionary collection for state missions, \$5.00.

Respectfully,

C. A. BEASLEY, Clerk.

J. B. Hodo, Moderator.

SECOND DISTRICT.

The next session of second district is to convene with Cross Roads church on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1898.

Introductory sermon by Elder J. A. Estes; alternate, H. B. Chappell. Missionary sermon by Elder D. O. Baird; alternate, Elder M. G. Lofton.

Query 1st. What are we taught in Heb. the 10th chapter, 26th and 27th verses? Opened by Elder H. B. Chappell.

Query 2d. What constitutes a gospel church? Opened by brother J. W. Wright.

Essay 1st. "Missions," by W. L. O'Bryant.

Query 3d. What is it to contend earnestly for the faith? Opened by brother J. L. Harper.

Essay 2d. "Church Discipline," by Bros. W. E. Allen and John Keating.

Query 4th. Pastoral support. Opened by brother J. A. Pearson and R. B. Butler.

Query 5th. Does repentance precede regeneration? Opened by brother J. R. Wilkins. (This query, by request of Bro. Wilkins, was continued until next meeting.)

THIRD DISTRICT.

The union meeting of the third district will be held with Prairie church on Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1898, 11 a. m.

Introductory sermon by Elder M. G. Lofton; alternate, Elder G. W. Kerr; Missionary sermon by Elder W. L. White alternate, Elder J. G. Cook.

Query 1st. Does repentance precede regeneration? W. C. Mayes.

Query 2d. Is the modern annual protracted meeting conducive to religious activity in the church? C. W. Free.

Query 3d. What effect does ministerial indiscretion have on the cause of christianity? W. C. Mayes.

Query 4th. Why am I a Baptist? W. P. Peden.

Query 5th. What does consecration to God and his service consist of? W. G. Robertson.

Query 6th. Am I my brother's keeper? E. D. Willett.

Essay I. "Christian Benevolence." Sister J. J. Ball.

FOURTH DISTRICT

The next session will be held with Shiloh church, beginning on Friday before the second Sabbath in August, 1898.

Introductory sermon by Elder J. L. Ray; alternate, J. D. Hamner. Missionary sermon by Elder J. D. Hamner; alternate, Elder J. D. Ray.

Query 1st. What are the duties of deacons to their pastor, and what should be done with a deacon that knowingly neglects the support of his pastor? Opened by Bro. J. P. Barnett.

Query 2d. What reasons have I to believe that I am a christian? Opened by Bro. Monroe Goodson.

Query 3d. What are the benefits to be derived from a religious newspaper in every family? Opened by Bro. R. H. Foster.

Query 4th. What are worldly amusements, and to what extent should church members engage in them? Opened by J. A. Leavell.

Missionary collection taken up on Sunday and handed in with this report—\$3.33. Respectfully, J. L. Ray, Clerk.

The Report on Education was amended so as to make J. D. Ray the beneficiary of this association at Howard College, and to request the churches to appropriate their earliest collections to ministerial education, after which it was adopted:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We, your committee, wish to present the following report: We point with pride to the fact that it is no longer necessary among Baptists to press the importance of education. It's true that here and there among us may be found a man lying in the corner of a

crooked fence waiting to shoot the "kearra;" but these have become the exception and not the rule. Good schools and colleges have sprung up all over the land, and across the front of many of these we see written in letters of living light "Baptist." We are proud to say that Alabama is behind no state in the number and standing of these within her borders, and that from the walls of them have gone forth men and women qualified to fill almost any position in the world. The most important of these institutions are the Howard at East Lake, and Judson at Marion. We should support these because: First, they are ours. It's a poor man who will liberally support other people and let his own folks starve. Second, if the State University, which was organized to do university work, should degenerate into a college and give free tuition, it operates disastrously against our denominational colleges, and finally absorbs all the means of forming the character and shaping the lives of the citizens of the republic. Against this we lift our earnest protest. Let us stand by our denominational schools, with our prayers, our sympathies, our tears and our dollars.

M. G. LOFTON.

M. B. CURRY.

J. S. FREE.

The Moderator read the list of Temporary Committees.

TEMPORARY COMMITTEES.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—C. D. Harper, J. A. Pearson, T. S. Wilkins

Documents—Rev. J. D. Ray, U. E. Allen, H. I. Scott.

Nominations—J. L. Harper, J. M. Daffron, W. P. Chappell.

Appointments—J. P. Park, W. P. Peden, Eddie Ferguson.

Finance—M. B. Curry, W. C. Mayes, W. P. Peden.

Religious Exercises—Pastor and Deacons of Spring Hill church.

Under the head of miscellaneous business the committee on Religious Exercises reported that we would have no services at night during the session

WEDNESDAY.

Prayer services conducted by W. P. Peden. J. L. Harper led in prayer.

On motion, suspended order of business to receive Rev. N. B. Williams, representative of the State Mission Board, and Rev. E. P. Jones from the Columbus association.

The report on Orphans' Home being read, pending its adoption, a collection in cash and subscription was made, after which the report was adopted. The collection was as follows:

SUBSCRIPTIONS ORPHANS' HOME.

J. B. Small	\$5 00	Sam Thornton, (paid)	\$1 00
U. E. Allen	1 00	W. P. Peden	1 00
Jeff Noland	1 00	J. H. Stinson	1 00
W. G. Robertson	2 50	J. R. Gordon	50
J. D. Ray	1 00	C. D. Harper	1 00
J. M. Daffron	1 00	J. S. Stimpson	25
W. C. Mayes	1 00	F. J. Hall	50
M. B. Curry	1 00	H. I. Scott	50
T. K. Harrison	1 00	J. N. Hall	1 00
J. L. Ray	1 00	H. B. Chappell	1 00
H. Shepard, (paid 40c.)	50	W. P. Chappell	1 00
W. C. Williams	1 00	Miss Lizzie Corder, (paid)	25
Sam Shaw	50		

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

We, your committee, submit the following report: The Baptist Orphanage, located at Evergreen, Ala., now in its fourth year, is in a flourishing condition. Twelve rooms have been added to the building since last year and the Home otherwise greatly improved. The Orphanage has incurred a small debt and is greatly in need of funds to meet current expenses. Sixty-six children have been received; 30 of this number have been adopted into good families; 35 are now in the Home. They all attend church and Sunday school; also the Agricultural school, where no tuition is charged. Now, brethren, this Home is owned by the Baptist State Convention, is our Home, and surely we should appreciate the privilege of aiding in this great work of elevating and educating these little orphans, many of whom were taken from the filth and slums of the city. In the name of Him who said: "Suffer little children to come unto me," we appeal to every church and every individual composing this Association to uphold this great enterprise with their prayers, their sympathy and their money.

W. P. PEDEN, Chairman.

The committee on Foreign Missions being absent and the Moderator having waited till the last moment, requested Elder M. M. Wood to prepare a report. Three reports on missions were then read by the respective chairmen, one on State Missions, one on Home Missions and one on Foreign Missions.

On motion, the order of business was then suspended to pass on the Report on Documents, which was adopted.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee beg leave to submit the following: From the letters of the various churches we find that many of them report gracious revivals, and many have been brought to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, though the spiritual condition is not what we would desire it. We find that a church has been organized at Union Center and that they have subscribed to our Articles of Faith, and we recommend that they be received into our body and assigned to the Second District.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. D. RAY, Chairman.

Also, on motion, no provision having been made in the program for the committee on Preparatory Schools, it was agreed that this committee be given the regular hour allotted to the Committee on Documents. At the request of the Moderator the audience then stood and sang "Come thou Fount of Every Blessing," after which the different phases of missions were discussed at length. A motion to suspend the discussion until after the Missionary sermon prevailed. Dr. D. O. Baird presented the subject of missions in his usually forcible style, which resulted in a cash collection of \$10.55. The discussion of missions was then resumed and continued until dinner was announced, when, on motion, the discussion was again suspended to be resumed after the noon recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The subject of missions was finally disposed of by adopting the three reports.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Our State Mission Board is located at Montgomery, Ala., Elder W. C. Bledsoe treasurer and corresponding secretary. The Board occupies an unique position in our denominational work. The time has been when any agent of any Baptist enterprise might canvass the state from one end to the other, but in the wisdom of our brethren this was considered not wise and therefore the State Board was created and made the agent of other general boards with which our convention co-operates. The first purpose of the State Board is a matter of economy. At the last meeting of the Alabama Baptists the state was divided into six districts, and an evangelist was employed for each district. Rev. A. E. Burns, in North Alabama; Rev. J. W. Sandlin, in Northwest Alabama; J. N. Dickinson, in West Alabama; Rev. G. S. Anderson, in East Alabama; Elder A. J. Preston, in South Alabama, and Rev. J. A. Parker, in Southwest Alabama. The State Board of Missions has had a very hard struggle in securing the necessary means for the support of our mission work during this year, and hence we recommend that the pastors of the various churches continually remind the people of their duty to give to the support of State Board. The State Convention will meet at East Lake, Friday before the second Sunday in November, and by the help of the Lord we want to meet out of debt. Respectfully,

G. W. KERR.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The committee on Home Missions respectfully offer the following: Your committee on Home Missions last year made an elaborate and interesting report respecting the territory embraced in the Home Mission field, the high character of the men composing the board, and our duty to support said board. Your intelligence forbids that we do more than cite you to facts and figures published by the different boards of the Southern Baptist Convention. We have the right to presume that the members of this body are fully posted as to the progress being made by our denomination in the great mission work, hence we pass on to the great principle of missions, a principle laid down by Jesus Christ himself when he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," a command which is our authority, our plea and our creed as Missionary Baptists; a command we cannot disobey without forfeiting the right of claiming for ourselves that we are bought with a price, because the Word says a tree is known by its fruits. If we fail to show to the world that we are Missionary Baptists, by virtue of our missionary contributions, then we are false to all our pretensions and declarations respecting the subject of missions. We undertake to say that missionary work is the grand object and purpose of the church here in the world. Having bought us, he says, "Go preach my doctrine to every creature," in order that the fact may be known that the work of redemption is finished, making salvation possible to every one who believes. The way from earth to heaven has been opened up to a lost and ruined world on the one condition of a belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior. This, brethren, is the glorious news, the glad tidings we are divinely commissioned to carry to the poor heathen and to those in our home field that are dead in trespasses and sins, in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity.

Is it not well enough, brethren, for us to examine ourselves and see whether or not we have the spirit of missions, and if we find we are destitute of the same then we have great reason to doubt as to our possession of the Christian spirit, BECAUSE THE TWO ARE ONE AND INSEPARABLE. The mission spirit is the very essence of love, for God so loved the world that He sent His Son to redeem the world. Let us, brethren, wake up to our duties and responsibilities and capabilities, and let us consider the fact that we are doing nothing to carry on this great work, compared to what we can do and ought to do. A day is coming, brethren, when we must stand on our Christian record here and be rewarded according to our many good works, or as unprofitable servants, be saved as by fire. Your committee is of the opinion that the time is at hand when we shall speak on this subject BY OUR CONTRIBUTIONS. A plan should be adopted by which every church member should feel under obligations to pay annually for missions a certain amount, according to his means. We therefore respectfully submit the following preamble and resolutions: Whereas, this body, the "Union Baptist Association," realizing the magnitude and importance of the mission work and the fact that we have no system by which all can pay, according to their means, therefore be it resolved, 1st. That the members of the churches composing this Association are earnestly urged to comply with the apostolic injunction to "Lay aside on the first day of the week as the Lord hath prospered them" for the purpose of extending the gospel to every creature. 2d. That said amount be equally divided among the missionary boards of the Southern Baptist Convention.

JOHN STINSON, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Our Foreign Mission work is carried on under the guidance of a board or committee located at Richmond, Va., with Rev. R. J. Willingham as corresponding secretary. The fields of labor are China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico and Japan. In these fields we have eighty missionaries, one hundred and ten native helpers, ninety-five churches, six hundred and sixty baptisms last year. The present membership is 4,324. The big debt which has hindered the work for the last few years has been greatly reduced, and we trust will soon be all paid. The outlook on the field is encouraging, and we enter the new year with bright prospects. We recommend that the pastors preach on the subject and take collections at least four times during the year, that they send to Rev. R. J. Willingham, Richmond, Va., for literature and scatter same among their people and that prayer meetings in the interest of missions be held often. Respectfully submitted,

M. M. Wood.

(The discussions on the mission question were entirely harmonious.—CLERK.)

The Chairman, W. C. Mayes, having read the report on Sunday Schools, and presented the subject in very emphatic terms, the report was unanimously adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee beg leave to report that on close examination and diligent inquiry, we find a deplorable lack of interest in this the most important branch of church work. Of the thirty-six church organizations composing this Association fourteen of them have no Sabbath schools, and fully eighty per cent. of our membership is not engaged in nor identified with the work. The Sabbath

schools, properly conducted, in the hands of consecrated men and women, under the guidance and influence of the Holy Spirit, is the mightiest power in the land for the training of church members, as well as the children and youth of our country, and bringing them to an intelligent decision concerning their relation to Christ and the church, and furnishes a fruitful field for active Christian men and women to enter and labor for the Master in the salvation of souls and the consequent elevation of society and the strengthening of the nation. We therefore earnestly recommend that more prominence be given this greatly neglected work and that active measures be taken for its improvement.

W. C. MAYES, Chairman.

Dr. Baird, chairman of committee on Preparatory Schools, made a verbal report, the effect of which was to lay the subject on the table. The report was adopted.

The following is the Report on Nominations, which was adopted:

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee on Nominations beg leave to submit the following: The next introductory sermon by W. J. Beaty; alternate, J. D. Hammer. Missionary sermon by W. L. White; alternate, J. B. Small. Sermon on admission of members and qualifications necessary to acceptance by M. G. Lofton. The next session of the Association will be held with Carrollton church, Pickens county, Ala., beginning on Tuesday before the first Sunday in September, 1898, and continuing three days. Fraternally,

J. L. HARPER, Ch'n.

J. M. DAFFRON,

W. P. CHAPPELL.

The order of business was suspended and the following brethren, W. C. Mayes, H. B. Chappell, T. K. Harrison and J. J. Noland were excused from further attendance.

Under the head of miscellaneous business, a subscription for brother J. D. Ray was commenced, but, on motion, suspended, to be completed after devotional exercises Thursday morning.

THURSDAY.

Devotional exercises, song and prayer, were engaged in by all present.

Under miscellaneous business the subscription for brother J. D. Ray was finished and is as follows:

SUBSCRIPTION FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Fellowship.....	\$ 5 00	Unity.....	\$ 5 00
Hebron.....	2 00	Mt. Zion.....	2 00
Spring Hill, L.....	2 00	Prairie.....	5 00
Millport.....	2 00	Forest.....	5 00
New Salem.....	1 00	Shiloh.....	5 00
Liberty.....	1 00	Bethel.....	15 00
Arbor Springs.....	2 50	Flat Woods.....	1 00
Spring Hill, P.....	5 00	Grant's Creek.....	7 50
Big Creek.....	5 00	Enon.....	5 00
Cross Roads.....	2 00	Oak Ridge.....	2 50
Pickensville.....	8 00	Carrollton.....	10 00
Ebenezer.....	1 00	Wm. McCulley.....	1 00
J. T. Gunter.....	1 00		

Rev. J. D. Ray made the report on Religious Literature, which was adopted:

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

There is no more potent instrument in shaping the character and destiny of the youth of our land than the reading of religious literature. We would most heartily recommend the careful and prayerful study of the Bible, for it is the best of classics; upon it is based all moral and social laws that are for the upbuilding of the world. We also desire that our state paper, the Alabama Baptist, should find its way to every home, because it is a Baptist paper, and we should read it that our hearts may be brought into close touch with the doings of the Baptists of Alabama, that we may be in sympathy with the great interests of our denomination. We recommend the careful reading of the Foreign Mission Journal and the State Mission Quarterly in order that we may be brought into sympathy with the great cause of missions; also the Texas Baptist Standard of Waco, Texas, is well worthy of your patronage.

JAS. D. RAY, Chairman.

The Report on Temperance was read by Elder J. B. Small and, after being amended, was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Ever since apples and grapes grew the world has been tempted to drink unhealthful stimulants, but the intoxicants of the ancients was an innocent beverage, a harmless soda water when compared with the intoxicating drinks of today. In the drinks of modern inebriation there is a madness, a fury, a gloom and a destruction, mixed and mingled, that destroys both soul and body. The modern drunk is a hundred fold worse than the ancient drunk. It not only destroys the health of those who drink, but it entails a multiplicity of evils upon the innocent and helpless. Intemperance invades the home circle and drives out the light and happiness, and leaves darkness and wretchedness. It has invaded our land, laying our country in waste, filling our prisons with criminals, and our almshouses with paupers. It stands laughing like a demon of the bottomless pit at the ripe fields of grain, and with a keen sickle smites youth in its vigor, manhood in its prime, and age in its weakness. His cloven foot and slimy trail is to be found upon the sacred floors of God's sanctuary. Everywhere its leprous effects are to be seen, among the high and the low, the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, the young and the old, among all classes and in all places. It stalks abroad in all its hideousness, blasting the most promising prospects, reducing wealth to poverty, and sowing the seeds of disease, death and destruction everywhere. It tramples with impunity upon all that is good; it encourages vice, dishonors God, destroys soul and body, and sinks the drunkard to the bottom of hell. While there are many evils that attend the sin of drunkenness, the most dreadful consequence is that it ends in hell. Down at the bottom of all social disorder, political corruption, depression in business, stagnation in trade, poverty and suffering in our land, lies the liquor traffic. According to the latest statistics we spent last year for bread \$305,000,000, for meat \$303,000,000, making a total for both of \$608,000,000, while we spent \$900,000,000 for strong drink. And this is not all, it costs a great deal to take care of those who drink and their families. About 10,000,000 persons are arrested every year in the United States for crime. It costs about \$100,000,000 to arrest, care for, try and punish these criminals. It is estimated by actual count that ninety per cent. of criminals are in the habit of drinking, and that eighty per cent have committed crime while under the influence of strong drink: hence about \$80,000,000 of

this expense is due directly to the use of intoxicants. There are 600,000 paupers in alms houses in the United States, and statistics show intemperance causes more than eighty per cent of it all, and these alms houses cost our country \$60,000,000 every year. It is estimated that sixty per cent. of our lunatics become insane either because they drink themselves, or through the drunkenness and bestiality of others. It costs \$42,000,000 to sustain our asylums, \$25,000,000 of which is chargeable to intemperance. So then we have: Money spent direct for strong drink, \$900,000,000; expense of drink, criminals, \$80,000,000; expense of drink, paupers, \$60,000,000; expense of drink, lunatics, \$25,000,000; total, \$1,065,000,000. And then we must add to this the value of 27,000,000 bushels of grain used in making intoxicants last year, to say nothing of that used at illegal distilleries, which of course is not reported. I suppose a reasonable estimate of the value of this grain would be not less than \$13,000,000. Add this to the other and we have \$1,078,000,000. Every man, woman and child suffers from this traffic; every person who owns any property is taxed to support this business. Our annual drink bill would maintain our war and navy departments for sixteen years. Our drink for one month would pay our pension for one year. Our drink bill for one year would run the government, army, pensions, all, and then put more money into the treasury than is collected from tariff revenue. The total expenses of our government last year, for all purposes, amounted in round numbers to \$450,000,000, a little more than one-third the amount of our liquor bill for the same year. The total banking capital of our country last year was \$750,000,000. If only two-thirds of our drink bill was spent for food and raiment it would consume the entire production of our manufactories. If those who drink would quit for three years, and place their drink money into a bank, they would have a bank running with a capital of \$3,000,000,000. The secretary stated officially last year that there was in circulation in the United States \$23.00 per capita, and the drink bill is \$18.00 per capita. Money panics, hard times, stagnation in trade, must inevitably follow such waste, and the nation that so recklessly violates every law of political economy, must sooner or later become bankrupt. The liquor business is the dead march of a frightful plague, a calamity that is indescribable, that is irreparable. One hundred thousand of our citizens die from drunkenness every year, and go into the blackness of eternal darkness. "No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of heaven." In our national capital there are about 250,000 inhabitants, and 1,040 saloons, and it is said there are two of them in the capitol building. The city of Washington is governed by three commissioners appointed by the President. Congress not only insures protection to these saloons but patronizes them. Sam Jones uttered a truth when he said: "Congress could not pass anything, not even a saloon." Shall we quarantine against yellow fever, small pox and cholera, and allow this most desolating pestilence to stalk abroad at will all over our land, leaving sorrow, ruin and death, temporal and eternal, in its wake? As Christians we have the only remedy—the gospel of Christ. Politicians tell us the liquor business is not of sufficient importance to be made an issue in party politics, but the saloon is already in politics. It controls elections, puts its tools in office, and thus obstructs righteous legislation, defies the courts, and prevents the enforcement of the laws. This country will never be saved but by the enthronement of Jesus in the politics of the nation, and by His coronation as king of kings and lord of lords. The church member goes to the polls and votes for the saloons to continue lawful another year, then he

comes home singing: "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?" If there is such a thing as crime the saloon is its quintessence. To permit it to exist for money is to sell the lives of men, the virtue of women, and the support of little children. If there is any man that cannot make a living without going into the liquor business, let him seek the cloisters of a poor house and go to his grave with his soul unstained with saloon pollution. The Christian voters of our state and nation can say to the liquor sellers: "Your business must stop! You shall not continue to ruin our sons and fill our land with wretchedness and despair." And if they do not exercise their influence and power to stop this business, then whatever results may come from it, these Christian voters are responsible; they could have prevented them, but they did not. Allow me to say to the man who loves his family, his neighbor, his country and his God, there is but one consistent course, and that is to strive for the complete extermination of the liquor business. The time has come when all Christians must take a resolute stand for the right. I call upon all the Christians who hear me today to do all in their power, in a proper way, to drive the saloon, our worst enemy, from our land and country, for intemperance is the greatest evil in our nation. How can we be indifferent to this great question? How can we sit in listless apathy while so many are reeling onward to a drunkard's doom? Listen to and look at the anguished mother as she cries with a broken heart and lifts her piteous cries to heaven. Brethren, awake from your slumber, face the foe, rally to the battle-cry, save your own boys, save your fellow man, save your erring friend and neighbor; listen to the bugle call!

J. B. SMALL, Chairman.

AMENDMENT—We recommend to the churches to exclude from their membership any one who signs a petition to sell whisky or other intoxicating liquors, or sells whisky, or sells or gives syrup of any kind, or grain, or anything else to be made into intoxicants, when it is known that the said syrup or grain, or anything else, is to be used in making intoxicating liquors.

The Report on Apportionment was amended so as to reduce the amount requested of Big Creek five dollars, after which it was adopted.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

Your committee beg leave to report the following:

Bethlehem.....	\$10 00	New Salem.....	\$ 5 00
Mount Pleasant.....	10 00	McBee.....	5 00
Fellowship.....	9 00	Mineral Springs.....	12 00
Kennedy.....	20 00	Spring Hill, P.....	14 00
Pleasant Grove.....	5 00	Big Creek.....	20 00
Arbor Springs.....	12 00	Pickensville.....	40 00
Oak Ridge.....	7 00	Ebenezer.....	9 00
Hebron.....	9 00	Enon.....	25 00
Cross Roads.....	7 00	Prairie.....	20 00
Carrollton.....	50 00	Shiloh.....	15 00
Unity.....	15 00	Benlah.....	50 00
Mt. Zion.....	10 00	New Hope.....	20 00
Forest.....	20 00	Grant's Creek.....	30 00
Chalcedona.....	5 00	Flatwood.....	5 00
Bethel.....	56 00	Cornelius' Chapel.....	3 00
Zion.....	3 00	Union Center.....	7 00
Liberty.....	10 00	Millport.....	10 00
Spring Hill, L.....	13 00	Hickory Grove.....	3 00

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. PARK, Chairman.

Under a suspension of the order of business, leave of absence was granted to brethren J. P. Barnett and J. M. Daf-

From Upon the request of M. G. Lofton, the appointee, the Association desired Rev. N. B. Williams to preach the sermon on "The Communion and How to be Observed."

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer service was conducted by G. W. Kerr. The Moderator read list of Standing Committees:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Religious Literature—Elder M. G. Lofton, J. L. Harper, J. S. Free
 Temperance—Eld. H. B. Chappell, J. W. Cox, H. G. Mitchell.
 Orphanage—W. C. Mayes, Eddie Ferguson, R. L. Stone.
 State Missions—Eld. W. L. White, J. J. Ball, W. T. Walker.
 Home Missions—M. L. Stansel, C. W. Free, R. J. O'Bryant.
 Foreign Missions—Eld. J. B. Small, W. P. Owings, C. W. Fort.
 Education—M. B. Curry, J. M. Smith, P. H. Howard.
 Bible and Colportage—S. S. Thornton, J. T. McShan, J. P. Barnett.

Sunday Schools—J. H. Stinson, J. R. Long, Jr., Dr. H. B. Upchurch.
 Order of Business—Elder M. G. Lofton, J. A. Pearson, W. P. Chappell.

The Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons was re-committed with instructions to hand to the Clerk.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons made the following report: That after an examination of the letters from the churches we ascertain the fact that since the last meeting of this body we have sustained the loss of our esteemed brother and deacon, James H. Robertson, of New Hope church. Brother Robertson was born in Pendleton district, South Carolina, was made a deacon of New Hope church in 1846, and departed this life October 28th, 1896. The deceased was in his 81st year. Since his connection with the church he demonstrated to the world that there is a reality in the religion of our blessed Master. Love for God was the constraining feature in all his actions toward his fellow men. Truly a good man has gone from earth; but while his body sleeps in the tomb his memory is embalmed in the cherished recollections of many friends who knew and loved him, and all say with confident belief that his spirit is now at rest with God in everlasting glory. We would say to the bereaved family, weep not, for God doeth all things well. May the Holy Spirit comfort them in this sad affliction.

C. D. HARPER, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Finance will be found on the last page of this pamphlet.

Following are the reports of the Executive Committee and Secretary and Treasurer.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

This committee beg to report that during the month of May a meeting was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the feasibility and practicability of employing an evangelist within our bounds. It was decided that under all the circumstances it was not advisable to place a man in the field for this associational year. Your committee, however, are of the opinion that there is

a necessity for evangelistic and colportage work in the bounds of the Association, and that a good strong man should be put in the field, either by district appointment or by us independently.

M. L. STANSEL, Chairman.

W. G. ROBERTSON, Secretary.

REPORT OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

I beg to submit a summary of the receipts and disbursements by me, as Treasurer of the Executive Committee, since the last session of the Association:

1896.			
Sept. 1.	To amount on hand not remitted	\$ 48 42	
1897.			
Aug. 30.	To aggregate amount received for various objects.	153 02	
			\$201 44
	CR.		
	By paid State Missions	\$ 70 29	
	By paid Home Missions	14 42	
	By paid Foreign Missions	17 32	
	By paid Ministerial Education, (Ray)	63 63	
	By paid Orphanage.	28 05	
	By paid Howard College debt.	4 45	
	By paid expense, postage, stationery, etc.	2 38	
			\$201 44

The various churches remitting through me have my receipts for the items making up the receipts above reported, which will be turned in to the Finance Committee and included in their report. Fraternaly submitted,

W. G. ROBERTSON.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion, the Constitution was amended by striking out the last clause of Article 9.

Dr. D. O. Baird introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

RESOLVED, That Union Association dispense with the Executive Committee and appoint a Treasurer who, in conjunction with the Clerk, shall superintend the distribution of the funds to the different boards.

D. O. BAIRD.

On motion, M. B. Curry was appointed Treasurer.

On motion, Dr. D. O. Baird was selected to represent the Association in the Southern Baptist Convention.

On motion, the following delegates to the State Convention were appointed: W. G. Robertson, M. G. Lofton, G. W. Kerr, J. P. Parks, E. P. Ezell and J. L. Ray.

The following resolution was introduced by M. B. Curry and adopted by the Association:

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of this Association be requested to correspond with Brother Bledsoe and use every reasonable effort to get our District Evangelist to do some work in our bounds during the ensuing associational year.

The following resolution was presented and heartily adopted:

RESOLVED, That this Association return its heartfelt thanks to the people of Spring Hill church and vicinity for their kindness and Christian hospitality extended during the session of this body.

M. G. LOFTON, Clerk.

W. G. ROBERTSON, Moderator.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Twenty-ninth Annual Session of the Sunday School Convention of the Union Baptist Association, held with Enon church, Pickens county, Ala., July 27th, 28th and 29th, 1897.

Seven schools and one church were fairly represented.

The Convention was organized by electing S. S. Thornton, President, and W. C. Mayes, Secretary and Treasurer.

Elder J. L. Ray being absent, W. P. Peden preached the introductory.

Elder J. B. Small, M. B. Taylor and W. C. Mayes emphasized the vital importance of the Sunday school to the efficiency of the church.

The Moderator led the devotional exercises on Saturday morning.

The delegates thought the subject "Self-sacrifice," essential to the highest attainment in Sunday school work, of sufficient importance to be continued to the next meeting.

Duty of officers of the church to the Sunday school was interestingly discussed by W. P. Peden and others.

The discussion of fourth query showed that there is a great lack of due dependence on the Holy Spirit, that source of all power, and of proper preparation on the part of teachers to successfully teach the word of God.

Brother M. B. Taylor, chairman of Committee on Nominations, reported next meeting to be held with Beulah church, commencing Friday before the fifth Sunday in July, 1898, and continue three days. Convention sermon by Rev. J. D. Ray. Missionary sermon by Rev. G. W. Kerr.

The Committee on Documents thought that the fact that only seven churches reported schools clearly shows that the churches do not realize the importance and utility of the Sunday school, and that Christian parents are responsible for the lawlessness prevalent among the youth of the land.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON QUERIES AND ESSAYS.

Query No. 1. What should be done to interest the members of the church in the Sunday school work? Opened by C. W. Fort.

Query No. 2. How should a Sunday school be conducted to accomplish the greatest good? Opened by S. S. Thornton.

No. 3. To whom are teachers responsible for their teaching and conduct? Opened by J. L. Harper.

No. 4. Should unconverted teachers be employed in the Sunday school? Opened by Eddie Ferguson.

No. 5. Self-sacrifice essential to the highest attainment in Sunday school work. Opened by W. G. Robertson.

No. 6. How shall we create a deeper interest in the Sunday school work? Opened by Rev. D. O. Baird.

Essay No. 1. Christ the model teacher, by M. B. Curry.

No. 2. Sunday school work, by Miss Trudie Daffron.

W. P. PEDEN, Chairman.

The Report on Finance was read and adopted.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We have received for Sunday school work, from schools reported,
the sum of \$ 3 55
J. T. CRAFT, Chairman.

The Report of Secretary and Treasurer was read and adopted.

REPORT OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

DR.		
To amount balance last report		\$ 15 66
To amount by Finance Committee		4 98
To amount collection, July 26, 1896		6 25
Total.		<u>\$26 89</u>
CR.		
By postage	\$ 58	
By stationery	35	
By printing	2 50	
		<u>3 43</u>
Balance due		\$23 46
	W. C. MAYES, Treas.	

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Report on Nominations read and adopted. Convention sermon by Rev. J. D. Ray. Missionary sermon by Rev. G. W. Kerr. By invitation the next session of the Convention will be held with Beulah church on Friday before the fifth Sunday in July, 1898, to continue three days.

M. B. TAYLOR, Chairman.

Report on Documents was read and approved.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, beg leave to make the following report: We have examined the reports from the various churches and find only seven churches reporting schools, and this, your committee believes, clearly demonstrates the fact that the churches do not realize the importance and utility of the Sabbath school cause. Then who is responsible for the lawlessness so prevalent among the youth of the land? Christian parents, in God's name we implore you to look with an eye of scrutiny to the environments of your children.

C. W. FORT, Ch'm.

NAMES OF BAPTIST MINISTERS IN THIS ASSOCIATION WITH THEIR
POST OFFICES.

D. O. Baird.	Coalfire, Pickens County, Alabama.	
J. A. Estes	" " "	"
H. B. Chappell.	Dillburgh, " "	"
J. S. Wooten*	Gentry Lamar	"
W. J. Beaty.	" " "	"
J. P. Lee.	Pickensville, Pickens	"
J. G. Thornton	Montevallo, Shelby	"
J. B. Small.	Reform, Pickens	"
J. D. Hamner.	Romulus, Tuskaloosa	"
J. H. M. Anders	" " "	"
J. D. Ray*.	Boom, " "	"
J. L. Ray.	" " "	"
G. W. Kerr	Reform, Pickens	"
W. P. Peden*	Olney, " "	"
Wm. L. White.	Pickensville, Pickens County,	"
Ordained Ministers.		12
*Licentiates		3



FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR 1897.

CHURCHES.	State Missions. Cash.	State Missions. Voucher.	Home Missions. Voucher.	Foreign Miss'n Voucher.	Howard College Voucher.	Associational. Cash.	Ministerial Education—Vou.	Indigent Ministers—Cash.	Orphans' Home Cash.	Orphans' Home Voucher.	Minutes.	General Fund Cash.	General Fund. Voucher.	Total.
Bethlehem.														2 00
Liberty.		3 60				50	5 00				1 50	1 50		10 10
Fellowship.		1 50		1 50		50	1 80				1 00			10 10
Spring Hill, L.	2 50					50	2 00		1 15		1 00			6 40
Millport.		2 40				25	2 00				50	2 00		9 65
Kennedy.	1 75							2 00			50			7 15
New Salem.		8 50									50			4 25
Arbor Springs.						1 00					1 50			10 00
Mineral Springs.						50					2 00			2 00
Spring Hill, P.						1 00			1 15		1 00	6 80	2 55	4 95
Hebron.						50					2 00		9 65	12 05
Big Creek.	2 15	3 85				50					1 00			7 50
Cross Roads.		6 96	50	60		50			50		1 00			3 10
Hickory Grove.			75	4 12		50	5 10	1 00	1 60	6 00	50			26 98
Pickensville.														
Carrollton.	3 20					50					1 20			4 90
Ebenezer.		12 78				50	8 00			5 00	1 00			27 28
Unity.		4 79	50	2 22		50	2 60	25	3 00		50			15 36
Enon.		2 50				50	2 65				60	4 85		11 10
Mt. Zion.		80	2 37	8 36	3 00	50	2 05			4 82	1 00			23 70
Prairie.		1 15		80		50	6 40				1 00			9 85
Shiloh.		3 00	6 58	26 07	26 30	1 00	11 56		6 55	3 00				141 56
Bethel.		4 35	3 05	14 78	5 16	75	7 00		7 02	1 00	2 00			44 41
New Hope.		3 70	4 77	4 15		50	6 00				1 00			20 12
Forest.						50					2 00			2 00
Zion.						25					50			75
Flatwoods.						20					50			2 10
Cornelius' Chapel.	1 50					25	75				55			37 37
Grant's Creek.		8 10	5 25	15 57	5 45	1 00					2 00			37 37
Union Center.						60								1 20
Fourth District.												3 33	3 52	3 53
Third District.														3 52
Collectors at Asso's.														16 60
Total	\$11 10	\$67 98	\$23 77	\$83 17	\$40 21	\$80 00	\$62 91	\$1 25	\$14 75	\$20 30	\$83 15	\$20 78	\$16 15	\$190 09

NOTE:

Spring Hill (L.) church gave for Home Missions, \$1.00; Foreign Missions, \$1.00.

Pickensville church gave for Bible and Colportage, \$1.00.

Enon church gave for Ministerial Education, \$1.00.

Bethel church gave to Sister Bostick Educational Fund, \$57.00.

97.08

44.44
47.26
46.91

